



MICHIGAN
CHAPTER

April, 2020 Newsletter

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Welcome New Members



This month, we'd like to welcome Emily Baron, Alyssa Burriss and Michelle Geldhof to our membership. Hope to see you at a meeting soon!

Ask a CMP!

Member Spotlight



Meet **Sonnet Stork, Account Executive, Chase Creative**

Sonnet attended Central Michigan University and got her degree in Hospitality Services Administration in 2003. She started her career as a Wedding Coordinator in Ann Arbor. From there, Sonnet has worked as a Catering Manager and Sales Manager at full-service hotels in downtown Detroit and then a Director of Sales at a top-producing extended stay facility. After 10 years, Sonnet took a break to raise her two kids. Upon returning to the workforce, Sonnet took a career turn and decided to enter the Audio-Visual industry. With a thimble full of AV technology knowledge, she has found a passion for the audio-visual world and loves the planning of an event from a technical level. Her favorite part is seeing the execution of large-scale events after months of planning. Sonnet is currently a member of SGMP and MPI Michigan Chapter and looks forward to being the Director of Member Care for the 2020/2021 year.

Thanks for your membership, Sonnet!



This month, we spoke to **MPI MI member Leah Pierce, CMP, Corporate Sales Manager at Mission Point.**

Question: *As a remote staff person, do you have any tips for staying organized and focused on work in a home office environment?*

Answer:

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, many have been quarantined to work from home. Although working remotely can be a dream come true, without proper planning, motivation, and communication it can be challenging. I have had the opportunity to work remotely for Mission Point for the past five years. During this time I have learned that sticking to a schedule, having a designated workspace and communication is key. With the kids home from school it's important to set perimeters, take breaks and get outside for some fresh air. Make the most out of this family time. And, last but not least, feeling connected to the team is essential. Take the time to call your colleagues to check-in.

Thank you Leah!

Pick of the Gallery

What you Need to Know



Did you know...

We have two winners from our Member Satisfaction Survey drawing! Thank you to our amazing members who took the time to complete the survey; you may recall, everyone who responded was included in a drawing for several great prizes, two of them locally-provided by our outstanding members. We're happy to announce that member Sonnet Stork has won the overnight stay at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort (thank you Soaring Eagle!); member Andrea Starmer won the overnight travel bag and gas gift card (thank you Go Great!). Congratulations to our winners, and thank you again to ALL who completed the satisfaction survey; your feedback is invaluable and helps shape our chapter.

Just Around The Corner



First-ever VIRTUAL Global Meetings Industry Day (GMID)! MPI Michigan is excited to be participating in a *virtual* GMID this year on April 14. For the safety and health of all our members and attendees, we have postponed our own local, in-person event and are encouraging our members to instead take part in the virtual, global webinar. MPI is offering this both to members and non-members at no cost! This is a full-day summit on April 14 that starts at 7am. Don't miss this amazing opportunity for education and to connect with your industry friends. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

Conversations with Members



Celebration!

*This one goes way back - June,
2009*



From MPI MI President Alanna Klomp, CMM, CMP:

Greetings MPI – MI Chapter Members!

It is my hope that you are all hanging in there and looking for the good within the chaos we are experiencing. I know that I am looking forward to some new found quality time with my family. While we are being faced with having to make tough decisions only to have them negated on what seems to be a moment to moment basis, I am confident we will come out of this on the other side stronger and wiser for it. The beauty of our industry is that we have the skills to adapt to a variety of situations and this is just another opportunity for us to learn and grow.

Know that MPI is your trusted resource during this time. As the largest event and meeting association in the world, it's our duty to make certain our community remains adequately, properly and responsibly informed on Coronavirus. With that in mind, MPI Global is keeping our community informed through MPI's social channels, newsletters (MPI Pulse and MPI NewsBrief) and their current Coronavirus page <https://www.mpi.org/> (Resources tab)

The page includes up-to-date industry news, research, and information about ongoing resources being provided by MPI, including education and webinar series. For all things related to Coronavirus in Michigan please check <https://www.michigan.gov/Coronavirus>

Thank you for your patience and openness in this ever changing climate we are currently experiencing. It is certainly uncharted territory for all of us. Know that we have your best interest at hand and are here your as a resource. Should you have any comments, questions or concerns I can be reached at alannak@whitecapsbaseball.com. We are a resilient group of individuals and I am confident that we will weather this storm as we have in the past. Stay strong!

Thank you, Alanna

EXCITING NEWS - FREE REGISTRATION

The Michigan Chapter of the National Speakers Association often is one of the best kept secrets for Michigan Convention & Visitors Bureaus Professionals and Meeting & Events Planners. Their nationally-recognized professional speakers reside right here in the Mitten State! Let the Michigan Chapter become your **first-choice resource** for speakers, especially for expanded event

agendas or handling weather delays and speaker cancellations.

The Michigan Chapter of the National Speakers Association is offering **two complimentary admission tickets** to the event below, to industry professionals like our readers. If interested in attending this seminar please respond to our Chapter Administer, Elizabeth Pike at epike@mpimichapter.org no later than one week (7 days) prior to the scheduled date. Complimentary tickets are only available through advance reservation. No complimentary tickets are available on the day of the event.

Date: Saturday, May 9, 2020

Speaker: Anna Liotta's "What's Stopping Millennials or Gen Xers or Boomers from Hiring you?"

Time: 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Location: VIRTUAL

Thank you!

Questions? info@mpimichapter.org

Website: <https://www.mpiweb.org/michigan>

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